

Answer ALL the two questions.

Question 1 [20 marks]

A person **Q** is involved in a game of betting on an event **E**, where

$$P(\mathbf{E}) = p \quad \text{and} \quad P(\text{not } \mathbf{E}) = 1 - p.$$

Here

$$0 < p < 1$$

is a given (fixed) number. Denote

$$\text{not } \mathbf{E} \quad \text{by} \quad \neg \mathbf{E}.$$

The payoff of the game (per round) is

$$1 : 1.$$

[That is, in each round of the game, for every 1 unit **Q** wagers on **E**, if **E** occurs, **Q** collects 1 unit as the payoff, and keeps the 1 unit wagered; and if $\neg \mathbf{E}$ comes out, **Q** loses the 1 unit wagered.]

Q's thought is to play safe after each lost, and to be aggressive after each win (to a certain degree). With this in mind, **Q** applies the following betting strategy (described in $*_1 - *_7$).

$*_1$ **Q** plays exactly 10 “rounds of the game” (or simply, “round”).

$*_2$ **Q** always bets on **E** in each and every round.

$*_3$ **Q** starts the first round with 1 unit (betting on **E**).

$*_4$ After each and every lost, say on the n -th round, **Q** bets 1 unit on the next round [that is, on the $(n + 1)$ -th round, provided that $n + 1 \leq 10$].

$*_5$ In case **Q** encounters a win, say, in the m -th round (where $1 \leq m \leq 9$), **Q** bets 2 units in the $(m + 1)$ -th round. In addition, if **Q** also wins the $(m + 1)$ -th round, and $m + 1 \leq 9$, **Q** goes on to bet 4 units in the $(m + 2)$ -th round. { In case **Q** also wins the $(m + 2)$ -th round [together with the m -th round and $m + 1$]-th round], then we say that **Q** has a *triple consecutive wins* . }

$*_6$ After a *triple consecutive wins*, **Q** returns to bet 1 unit on the following round, provided the number of the following round does not exceed 10.

$*_7$ The rules in $*_1 - *_6$ repeat themselves until the last round (that is, the 10-th round).

For example:

The outcome : **E E E E E $\neg$ E $\neg$ E E E $\neg$ E**

The amount wagered : **1 2 4 1 2 4 1 1 2 4 (ended)**

– Q. 1 continues on the next page –

Q. 1 continues....

In the following, “ *strategy* ” always refers to $*_1 - *_7$ of the above .

(i) What is the maximum (combined) gain for **Q** by applying the strategy ? Justify your answer.

(ii) What is the maximum (combined) lost for **Q** by applying the strategy ? Justify your answer.

(iii) By applying the strategy , what is the probability of having at **least** one *triple consecutive wins* ? You answer should be in terms of **p** , and in its simplest form . Justify your answer.

(iv) Compute the expectation of **Q** by applying this strategy . You answer should be in terms of **p** , and in its simplest form . Justify your answer.

– *Q. 2 starts on the next page* –

Question 2 [20 marks]

Consider the number $C(n, r)$ given by

$$C(n, r) = \frac{n!}{(n-r)! \cdot r!}, \quad (2.0)$$

where n and r are integers satisfying $n \geq 1$ and $n \geq r \geq 0$ ($0! = 1$). We have the following identity (the Pascal Triangle relation).

$$C(n+1, r) = C(n, r) + C(n, r-1) \quad \text{for } n \geq r \geq 1. \quad (2.1)$$

You are NOT required to prove (2.1). See for example a portion of the Pascal Triangle Diagram in the PDF file found in the file “e-Test” [LumiNUS (GET1018)] with the file name Pascal-Triangle.pdf. By ignoring the number “1” on top, we start with

$$“1 \quad 1”,$$

and called it the first row. Likewise, the second row contains the numbers

$$“1 \quad 2 \quad 1”,$$

and so on.

Given an integer $m \geq 4$, consider the number

$$C(2m, m),$$

which can be found in the $(2m)$ -th row of the Pascal Triangle Diagram. For example, take $m = 7$, then

$$C(2m, m) = C(14, 7) = 3,432$$

($\uparrow$ found in the 14-th row of the Pascal Triangle Diagram).

Via the Pascal Triangle relation (2.1), we have

$$C(2m, m) = C(2m-1, m) + C(2m-1, m-1). \quad (2.2)$$

You are NOT required to prove (2.2). The numbers

$$C(2m-1, m) \quad \text{and} \quad C(2m-1, m-1)$$

can be found in the $(2m-1)$ -th row of the Pascal Triangle Diagram. Likewise, we apply the Pascal Triangle relation to the numbers $C(2m-1, m)$ and $C(2m-1, m-1)$, obtaining

– Q. 2 continues on the next page –

Q. 2 continues....

$$C(2m - 1, m) = C(2m - 2, m) + C(2m - 2, m - 1) \quad (2.3)$$

and

$$C(2m - 1, m - 1) = C(2m - 2, m - 1) + C(2m - 2, m - 2). \quad (2.4)$$

[Again, you are NOT required to prove (2.3) and (2.4).] The numbers on the right hand sides of (2.3) and (2.4) can be found in the $(2m - 2)$ -th row of the Pascal Triangle Diagram.

We continue to move upward of the Pascal Triangle by using the Pascal Triangle relation (2.1), as in (2.2), (2.3) and (2.4), from $(2m - 2)$ -th row to $(2m - 3)$ -th row, and so on, until we arrive at the m -th row of the Pascal Triangle Diagram (recall that $m \geq 4$). It follows that

$$C(2m, m) = a_o \cdot C(m, 0) + a_1 \cdot C(m, 1) + \cdots + a_r \cdot C(m, r) + \cdots + a_m \cdot C(m, m).$$

Here $a_o, a_1, \cdots, a_r, \cdots, a_m$ are coefficients to be determined.

(i) By using the procedure described in the above [(2.2), (2.3) and (2.4), and so on], determine all the coefficients $a_o, a_1, \cdots, a_r, \cdots, a_m$ in terms of

$$C(m, 0), C(m, 1), \cdots, C(m, r), \cdots, C(m, m).$$

Your answers should be in their simplest forms. Justify your answer.

Note that if you use another method [not from (2.2), (2.3) or (2.4), and so on], you may not be awarded full credit to this part.

(ii) Using the result in (i), find

$$[C(m, 0)]^2 + [C(m, 1)]^2 + \cdots + [C(m, r)]^2 + \cdots + [C(m, m)]^2.$$

Your answer should be of the form

$$C(X, Y) \quad [\text{refer to (2.0)}],$$

where X and Y are integers to be determined by you (expressed in their simplest forms). Justify your answer.

Note that if you use another method [not directly from (i)], you may not be awarded full credit to this part.

– END OF THE e-Test –